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SOUTH AFRICAN RESERVE BANK

Financial Markets Department

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Information notice on the official gold and foreign exchange reserves of the South African Reserve Bank as at 30 April 2026

This notice provides detail of the US dollar equivalent of the level of the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) official gold and foreign exchange reserves, Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), and foreign currency deposits received from customers, published today in the SARB's Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 30 April 2026.

	30 April 2026 (US\$ millions)	31 March 2026 (US\$ millions)	Change ⁽¹⁾ (US\$ millions)
Gold reserves	18 700	18 503	197
SDR holdings	6 664	6 588	76
Foreign exchange reserves ⁽²⁾	51 725	52 668	(943)
Gross reserves	77 089	77 759	(670)
Foreign currency deposits received ⁽³⁾	(3 918)	(5 158)	1 240
Forward position ^(4,5,6)	586	586	-
International liquidity position (ILP)	73 757	73 187	570
Exchange rates			% change
EUR/US\$	1.1701	1.1496	1.78
GBP/US\$	1.3511	1.3237	2.07
US\$/ZAR	16.7776	17.0794	(1.77)
SDR/US\$	1.3720	1.3564	1.15
US\$/CNY	6.8304	6.9042	(1.07)
Gold price			% change
Market (US\$)	4 634.00	4 585.47	1.06
Statutory (ZAR)	77 747.40	78 317.08	(0.73)

1. Figures might not add up due to rounding.
2. Foreign exchange reserves include foreign currency deposits received (FDR).
3. FDR balances include the foreign loans and foreign exchange purchases by the National Treasury (NT), both through outright purchases and foreign exchange swaps.
4. The forward position mainly reflects outstanding foreign exchange forward transactions. These include foreign exchange swaps to sterilise foreign exchange purchases and liquidity management swaps.
5. Sterilisation foreign exchange swaps refer to forward exchange contracts conducted to sterilise foreign exchange purchases from foreign direct investments and other foreign exchange inflows, such as from International Finance Institutions (IFI'S).
6. Liquidity management swaps refer to forward exchange contracts conducted in the normal course of business to manage money market liquidity.

The changes in the gross reserves and international liquidity position were mainly due to the foreign exchange loan received from the French Development Agency (AFD) on behalf of government amounting to US\$235,8 million, the increase in the US dollar gold price, valuation adjustments due to foreign exchange and asset price movements. These factors were offset by the foreign exchange payments made on behalf of government which included the repayment of a foreign loan amounting to US\$1,2 billion.